
The seal of the State of Illinois is centered on the page. It features an eagle with wings spread, perched on a shield with a plow and a sheaf of wheat. The shield is flanked by a banner with the word 'UNION' and a scroll with the date '1818'. The outer ring of the seal contains the text 'SEAL OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS' and 'AUG. 26TH 1818'.

Agricultural Areas

2006 Annual Report

Division of Natural Resources
December 31, 2006



AGRICULTURAL AREAS 2006 Annual Report

The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA), pursuant to the *Agricultural Areas Conservation and Protection Act (505 ILCS 5/20.1)*, is required to prepare an annual report to the Illinois General Assembly on the location and size of all agricultural areas (also known as ag areas) created, modified, or dissolved during the past year. The Act had two modifications in the last three years regarding Sec. 5. Agricultural Areas; Creation. These changes are delineated below. A copy of the complete Act is available at our web site listed below.

The Agricultural Areas Summary lists the 23 counties with local county board approved ag areas. This chart itemizes the number of agricultural areas in participating counties, along with their respective acres, and summarizes the total number of acres in approved ag areas throughout the state.

There weren't any changes in Illinois for the 2006 Summary of Agricultural Areas in Illinois. A total of 121,405 acres are currently enrolled in 56 ag areas in Illinois. A compilation of maps delineating the 56 ag areas in the 23 counties can be obtained by referring to the IDOA's Agricultural Areas Annual Reports, available from the IDOA website at www.agr.state.il.us/Environment/LandWater.

For additional information, contact the Department's Bureau of Land and Water Resources at 217.782.6297.

Recent Changes in the Agricultural Areas Conservation and Protection Act

(505 ILCS 5/5) (from Ch. 5, par. 1005)

Sec. 5. Agricultural Areas; Creation. Any owner or owners of land may submit a proposal to the county board for the creation of an agricultural area within such county. An agricultural area, at the creation of any such area, shall not be less than 350 acres in all counties with a population under 600,000 and not less than 100 acres in all counties with a population of 600,000 or more. Such proposal shall include a description of the proposed area, including the boundaries thereof. Such territory shall be as compact and nearly contiguous as feasible. If any portion of the proposed area is not contiguous to another portion of the proposed area, that non-contiguous portion must be no more than 1.5 miles from the nearest other portion of the proposed area as measured between the closest boundaries of the 2 portions. An area created under this Act shall be established for a period of ten years. No land shall be included in an agricultural area without the consent of the owner. No land within an agricultural area shall be used for other than agricultural production as described in Sections 3.01 and 3.02 of this Act. Agreements for the extraction of mineral resources duly agreed upon prior to the creation of an agricultural area shall be exempted from the use provisions of this Section. In addition, the extraction of mineral resources conducted pursuant to the Surface Coal Mining Land Conservation and Reclamation Act shall be considered temporary land use and shall be exempted from the use provisions of this Section.

(Source: P.A. 93-234, eff. 7-22-03; 94-444, eff. 1-1-06.)

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Areas in Illinois
Summarized by County
December 31, 2006

<u>County</u>	<u>Number of Ag Areas</u>	<u>Acres in each Ag Area</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>
Boone	2	2520, 4743	7,263
Bureau	2	1962, 1969	3,931
DeKalb	1	710	710
Effingham	1	561	561
Fulton	1	1915	1,915
Henry	8	1982, 2480, 2635, 3097, 6751, 3129, 353, 2308	22,735
Jersey	2	10,167; 9678	19,845
Kane	1	600	600
Kendall	2	360, 400	760
Knox	1	1735	1,735
LaSalle	5	659, 1220, 847, 1866, 804	5,396
Macon	1	1693	1,693
Madison	2	1400, 1277	2,677
Marshall	5	953, 1301, 762, 1931, 467	5,414
Massac	2	500, 3199	3,699
McHenry	9	2518, 795, 2078, 892, 6782, 802, 4466, 2048, 415	20,796
Ogle	1	429	429
Peoria	3	393, 1567, 589	2,549
Putnam	3	1046, 4400, 1882	7,328
Randolph	1	6903	6,903
Sangamon	1	377	377
Tazewell	1	3620	3,620
Will	1	469	469
23 Counties	56 Ag Areas		121,405 Acres

353 Acres - Smallest Ag Area
10,201 Acres - Largest Ag Area

Counties with Agricultural Areas

December 31, 2006

